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BOROUGH OF YEOVIL.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1949

BOROUGH OF YEOVIL.



*With the
Medical Officer's
Compliments.*

*Public Health and
School Medical Departments,
Preston Road, Yeovil.*

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BOROUGH OF YEOVIL.

Mayor :

ALDERMAN B. DENING

Deputy Mayor :

ALDERMAN W. S. VOSPER

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Alderman W. J. C. PITTARD (Chairman)

Alderman B. DENING (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor W. J. ENGLISH

Councillor A. R. LAMB

Councillor L. KIBBY

Councillor S. J. RICKETTS

Councillor A. C. SINGLETON

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer :

P. POWER FOX, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant County Medical Officer :

M. I. ROSS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Dental Surgeon QUENTIN DAVIES, L.D.S., R.C.S.
(ENGLAND)

Senior Sanitary Inspector & Sewage
& Destructor Works Manager .. C. G. H. RICE, M.S.A.I., Cert.
R.S.I., S.I.J.B., Cert. R.S.I., Meat
and Food, A.Inst.S.P.

Sanitary Inspector G. E. ROADHOUSE, Cert. R.S.I.,
S.I.J.B., Cert. R.S.I., Meat and
other Foods, A.R.S.I.

Student Sanitary Inspector A. WALLIS, A.R., SAN.I.

TO THE
MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS
OF THE
YEOVIL BOROUGH COUNCIL

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1949.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The population as shown by the Registrar General shows a slight increase, 23,660 as compared with 23,290 for the previous year. The Birth Rate shows a decline, 15.8 as compared with 16.4 for the previous year, but this is partly accounted for by the increase of population and by the decline in the number of illegitimate births, the number of legitimate births being the same as for the previous year, viz., 362. The Infantile Mortality Rate (37.4) shows a slight increase as compared with that of the previous year (36.4) though the actual number of deaths under 1 year of age was the same, viz., 14.

DEATH RATE.

The Crude Death Rate for the Borough was 11.9. For the first time for a number of years the Registrar General has given "an area comparability factor". Multiplication of the Crude Death Rate by this factor gives a Corrected Death Rate *i.e.*, a Rate which takes into account the age and sex incidence of the population. The Corrected Death Rate for the Borough was 10.8 as compared with England and Wales 11.7.

The Maternal Mortality Rate was *nil*.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

There has been no marked change in this service as compared with the previous year. I am pleased to report, however, that the full establishment of Health Visitors for the Borough was available, and this is reflected in the increased number of home visits made, viz., 2,726 as compared with 1,403 in 1948.

ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS.

No major alteration has taken place during the year. The number of patients attending showed an increase with a slight increase in the number of attendances. The number of patients attending for post-natal examinations is still low, though there is an increase as compared with the previous year.

BLOOD EXAMINATIONS.

The above service has shown a considerable increase, 196 patients attending as compared with 83 for the previous year.

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE.

I regret to state that the rate of 37.4 for 1949 showed a slight increase as compared with 36.4 for the previous year. As in the previous year, the actual number of deaths of infants under 1 year was 14 and all deaths occurred under 1 month, 12 occurring within the first week of life.

HOME HELP SERVICE.

This service continues to be of great assistance in the Borough. The number of cases for which Home Helps were provided was 192. During the period January - September, the service was organised by the W.V.S., but from October onwards it has been run by the Somerset County Council using a whole-time organiser in co-operation with the W.V.S.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY.

The Mass Radiography Unit visited Yeovil in December, 1949, and 2,298 examinations were carried out, including 228 school children. As a result of the examinations 6 males and 5 females were found to have active pulmonary tuberculosis and 17 males and 12 females to have inactive tuberculosis. Appropriate action was taken in each case. It is difficult to over-emphasise the value of this service in that it enables the early diagnosis of this disease which is so important with regard to the cure and also the prevention of spread of infection.

HOUSING.

The Council are well aware of the acute housing problem in the Borough. During the year 95 houses were completed which is an improvement on the previous year, but the demand is more acute. I am indebted to Mr. Herington, Housing Manager, for the following figures.

APPLICANTS ON THE WAITING LIST AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1949.

Sub-tenants with children	..	..	..	438
Sub-tenants with no children	..	..	..	275
Householders with children	..	..	..	338
Householders with out children	..	..	..	51
Elderly couples, widows, widowers, etc.	..	..	..	67
Total..	..	..	..	1169

SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE.

Since the inception of the National Health Service there has been a regrettable change in the nature of the School Dental Service. The main function of this service was that by frequent and routine inspection of school children to diagnose dental caries in the earliest stage and, where possible, to preserve their teeth by fillings and other conservative measures. Due to lack of dental officers it is now not practicable to carry out these surveys and, in fact, no survey has been carried out in the Yeovil schools for the past two years. Figures for the period January—May, 1948 and 1949 are as follows :—

		<i>No. of inspections.</i>	<i>No. requiring treatment</i>	<i>Extractions</i>		<i>Fillings</i>	
				<i>Temp.</i>	<i>Perm.</i>	<i>Temp.</i>	<i>Perm.</i>
1948	.. ..	983	495 (50.3%)	530	96	150	432
1949	.. ..	352	294 (83.5%)	580	132	103	238

It will be noted that :—

- (1) the percentage of children examined who require treatment has risen considerably;
- (2) there has been a decrease in the number of teeth filled, i.e. “saved,” but an increase in the number of teeth whose condition was so bad that extraction was the only possible remedy.

The Somerset County Council, who are the School Dental Authority, are fully aware of the position which is widespread throughout the County. The County School Medical Officer in his Annual Report states—“Difficulties caused by the reduction of the dental staff owing to the delay in adjusting remuneration levels as between dental officers working in the Local Authority and General Practitioners service have become acute.” Inasmuch as the dental condition of school children of the Borough is a factor affecting the health of the community, I think it proper to draw your attention to this state of affairs.

SEWAGE AND REFUSE WORKS.

As in the previous year, minor improvement and maintenance work has been carried out. Detailed plans for the new Sewage Works are in hand and the urgent necessity for the new Sewage Works, particularly in relation to the pollution of the River Yeo, is appreciated by all concerned.

I wish to take this opportunity of recording my appreciation of the continued help and support given me by the Council and, in particular, Alderman W. J. C. Pittard, Chairman of the Public Health committee.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

P. POWER FOX.

VITAL STATISTICS SUMMARY

Area	2,256 Acres		
Rainfall	28.5 inches		
*Rainy Days	130		
Population	23,660		
Live Births—	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	187	175	362
Illegitimate	5	7	12
			<hr style="width: 10%; margin: auto;"/>
			374
			<hr style="width: 10%; margin: auto;"/>
Stillbirths	13		
Birthrate per 1,000 population	15.8		
Illegitimate Births	3.3 of live births		
Deaths—	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
	139	143	282
Crude Death rate per 1,000 population	11.9		
Corrected Death Rate per 1,000 population	10.8		
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	37.4		
Phthisis Death Rate per 1,000	0.46		
Number of Women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth	<i>Nil</i>		

* A Rainy day is defined as one during which 0.1 in. of rain or more falls during the 24 hours commencing 09.00 hours G.M.T.

VITAL STATISTICS

THE BIRTH RATE.

1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949
<hr style="width: 10%; margin: auto;"/>	<hr style="width: 10%; margin: auto;"/>	<hr style="width: 10%; margin: auto;"/>	<hr style="width: 10%; margin: auto;"/>	<hr style="width: 10%; margin: auto;"/>	<hr style="width: 10%; margin: auto;"/>	<hr style="width: 10%; margin: auto;"/>
19.7	21.7	19.4	19.5	20.3	16.4	15.8

The following tables show the causes of death and the sex distribution.

The primary cause of death was heart disease (91) with cancer second (50).

There were 148 deaths occurred in persons over 70 years of age.

CAUSES OF DEATH	1949	
	Males	Females
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	—	—
Cerebral-spinal Fever	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	7	4
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	—	1
Syphilis	—	—
Influenza	1	1
Measles	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—
Encephalitis	—	—
Cancer	27	23
Diabetes	—	2
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	14	24
Heart Disease	43	48
Other Diseases of Circulatory system	6	9
Bronchitis	3	6
Pneumonia	7	3
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	1
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	2	—
Diarrhoea	—	—
Appendicitis	—	1
Other Digestive Diseases	4	1
Nephritis	3	2
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—
Other Maternal Causes	—	—
Premature Births	2	2
Congenital Causes	5	5
Suicide	—	—
Road Traffic	—	—
Other Violence	1	5
All other Causes	13	5
TOTAL DEATHS	139	143

Deaths of Infants under 1 year.	Total	14
	Legitimate	14
	Illegitimate	—

INFANT MORTALITY

CAUSES OF DEATH

Prematurity	..	..	..	..	4
Congenital	..	..	..	..	3
Haemorrhage	..	..	..	..	4
Atelectasis	..	..	..	..	1
Meningitis	..	..	..	..	1
Sclero-oedema	..	..	..	..	1
					—
					14
					—

AGE OF DEATH

<i>Under 24 hours</i>	<i>Under 1 week.</i>	<i>1 Month or under</i>	<i>Under 1 Year</i>
4	12	14	14

CAUSES OF DEATH UNDER 24 HOURS WERE :

Prematurity	..	..	..	....	1
Congenital Causes	..	..	..	..	3

CAUSES OF DEATH UNDER 1 WEEK WERE :

Sclero-oedema	..	..	..	..	1
Prematurity	..	..	..	..	2
Haemorrhage (Diseases Newborn)	..	..	..	..	1
Bilateral Haemorrhage	..	..	..	..	1
Atelectasis	..	..	..	..	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage	..	..	..	..	2

CAUSES OF DEATH 1 MONTH OR UNDER WERE :

Meningitis	..	..	..	..	1
Prematurity	..	..	..	..	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table sets out the details of Infectious Diseases notified during the year.

DISEASE					Cases notified
Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	5
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	15
Dysentery	..	..	..	..	2
Measles	..	..	..	..	124
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	17
Erysypelas	..	..	..	..	2
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	98
Puerperal Pyrexia	..	..	..	..	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	..	..	..	..	1
Anthrax	..	..	..	..	1
Paratyphoid	..	..	..	..	—

The number of Yeovil Borough cases admitted to South Petherton Hospital was 88. This number included a certain number of cases transferred from Yeovil Hospital for convalescent treatment.

DISEASE							<i>cases admitted</i>
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Observation	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Tonsillitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Vaginitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Cellulitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Impetigo	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Healthy Mothers	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Measles with Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Influenza with Tonsillitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Measles with Laporatomy	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Conjunctivitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Meningitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Otitis Media	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Measles	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Pemphigus	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Pyrexia	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Premature Baby	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Healthy Babies with Mothers	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Forceps delivery Baby	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Gastro-enteritis	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Septic Mouth	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Rectal Abscess	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Bronchial Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Healthy Babies	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Cow Pox	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
? Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Colporrhaphy	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Dysentery	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Anthrax	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Pernicious Anaemia	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The number of children who completed courses of injections against Diphtheria or Diphtheria and Whooping Cough under the age of 5 years was 417, of whom 298 were treated at the Clinic, the remainder being treated by their family doctor. In addition, 71 school children received immunising courses of injections for the first time and 440 school children received "reinforcement" dose. With reference to combined immunisation against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough, it has not yet been established that the injections against Whooping Cough are of the same high value as against Diphtheria and, therefore, while these injections are given if the parents request them, no active encouragement is given by this Department.

VACCINATION

The number of children vaccinated at the Clinic was 51. I am of the opinion that despite complications which may arise on very rare occasions vaccination is a valuable prophylactic measure, and that all children should be vaccinated in infancy.

TUBERCULOSIS

	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>
Notification	22	2
Deaths	5	2
Death rate of respiratory Tuberculosis per 1,000 population is 0.21		

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

These were well attended during the year. There was a slight increase in the number of women attending the Ante and Post-natal Clinics, though the importance of the patient attending for a post-natal examination is not fully appreciated by all women. There has been a considerable increase in the number of patients attending for preliminary blood investigation, mainly in connection with the Rh factor, the number attending in the year 1949 being 196 as compared with 83 for the previous year.

ANTE-NATAL :

Total number of Expectant Mothers attending for first time	217
Total number of Ante-natal attendances	1188

POST-NATAL CLINIC :

Total number of Mothers attending Post-natal for first time	37
Total number of attendances made	53

DENTAL TREATMENT :

Number of Ante-natal cases	182
Number of Post-natal cases	35
Number of children under 5 years	178

INFANT WELFARE :

Total number of Children attending	953
Total number of Children attending for first time	327
Total number of attendances made	5109

HOME VISITS BY HEALTH VISITORS :

Infants :

Primary visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	299
Subsequent visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	758
Visits to children 1 to 5 years	..	..	..	..	..	..	1669

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT

Action under Section 47 of the above Act was taken with regard to one case only during the past year. This was in respect of an old lady, aged 84, living alone in part of a house. There were no close relatives living in the town and, after consultation with the nearest relatives who were living in Wales and by reason of the age and infirmity of the old lady, arrangements were made for her admission to Summerlands Hospital on the 22nd June, 1949. The period of detention authorised was for three months which was subsequently renewed, as necessary. At the 31st December 1949, the old lady was still a patient at the Hospital. Her general condition had deteriorated and she was bedridden.

FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS

There was no outbreak of food poisoning during the year. There were two patients notified with disease due to a Salmonella infection, but in neither case could a connection be traced and no other known cases occurred among the immediate contacts.

P. POWER FOX,

Medical Officer of Health.

REPORT

OF THE

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR AND SEWAGE AND DESTRUCTOR WORKS MANAGER for the Year 1949

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH AND SANITARY
COMMITTEE:

Gentlemen,

I present herewith my Report for 1949, and in so doing would record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health and Sanitary Committee for their continued support, also to the members of the staff of my Department for their loyal assistance throughout the year.

NUISANCES

COMPLAINTS

Included below is a list of the varied types of complaints made by the general public and received by the Department during the year.

General housing defects	40
Defective drainage, cesspools, etc.	36
Smoke, dust and effluvia nuisances	15
Rats and mice	29
Verminous premises	10
Kitchen waste bins	5
Overcrowding	14
Keeping of animals	8
Foodstuffs and food premises ..	5
Caravans	2
Dumping of refuse	2
Nuisances from water courses ..	5

Total	171
-------------	-----

OVERCROWDING

An approximate figure of 50 cases or 4.3% of the total number of applicants for Council houses at the end of the year is estimated to exist. Whilst it is still impossible under present circumstances to carry out a survey to ascertain the true position, the number is considered to be in excess of 50. Many houses continue to be occupied by more than one family with resultant overcrowding.

FITNESS OF HOUSES

The general standard is still far below the desired level. Factors which considerably delay efforts to improve the condition of these lower standard houses are :—

- (a) the great demands made on the building trades generally;
- (b) the binding restrictions imposed by the existing Rent Acts.

Numbers of these houses must, under present conditions, continue to function for some years to come, and it is regretted that the problem of their maintenance is too often overshadowed by the factors mentioned above.

MEAT INSPECTION

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

The Ministry of Food continues to occupy and use the premises in Queen Street, whilst the Bacon Factory at the Preston end of the town carried on with pig killing on a similar scale as in 1948.

Comparative figures of the killings are included below. The figures are, of course, for the meat supplies within the Borough and also the Rural areas supplied from the Yeovil Centre.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Bullocks</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Total</i>
1945	2761	8167	604	2373	13905
1946	2461	9729	395	2144	14729
1947	1942	6024	217	2363	10546
1948	1590	5472	577	1982	9621
1949	1757	6384	589	1631	10361

The following statement contains particulars of the number of carcasses killed and inspected during the year together with the amounts of meat condemned.

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed	943	814	1631	6384	589
Number inspected	929	792	1582	6289	575
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis</i> Whole carcasses con- demned	4	12	1	15	17
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	549	488	9	218	14
% of number in- spected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	59.58%	63.16%	.56%	3.7%	5.27%
<i>Tuberculosis only</i> Whole carcasses con- demned	5	32	—	—	3
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned ..	243	216	1	—	17
% of number in- spected affected with Tuberculosis	26.69%	31.31%	.06%	—	3.40%

MEAT OTHER THAN CARCASSES CONDEMNED

			<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	
BEEF	..	..	17	2	2	} T.B., Bruising,
MUTTON		..	1		9	
PORK	..	..	2	3	13	} Abcesses, Pneumonia, etc.
VEAL	..	..		1	26	

OFFAL CONDEMNED

	<i>Bullocks</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Calves</i>
Livers	305	193	2	—
Part Livers	490	—	—	—
Lungs	149	—	—	—
Lungs and Hearts	65	—	—	—
Heads and Tongues	122	—	18	1
Plucks	—	15	15	1
Milts	50	—	—	—
Skirts	59	—	—	—
Tripes	57	—	—	—

FOOD INSPECTION

CANNED FOOD CONDEMNED

Meat	151 tins	} Damaged or unsound and unfit for human consumption
Milk—evaporated	360 tins	
Fish	77 tins	
Jams	24 tins	
Fruit and Vegetables	2470 tins	
Mayonnaise	56 tins	
Total	3138 tins	

UN SOUND FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED

Chutney (jars)	145 dozen	} Damaged or unsound and unfit for human consumption
Crumpets	115 dozen	
Oats Mixture	35 packets	
Pudding Mixture	341 packets	
Pickles	14 dozen	
Cheese	63 packets	
Chitterlings	140 lbs.	
Rabbits	32 lbs.	
Dried Egg	28 lbs.	
Margarine	56 lbs.	
Sausages	12 lbs.	
Sweetened Fat	56 lbs.	
Salad Cream	609 lbs.	
Tripe	457 lbs.	
Eggs	2 dozen	
Fish Paste	660 dozen	
Essences	33 dozen	
Flavourings	4 dozen	
Salad Oil	4 dozen	
Sago	1 bag	
Sauces (bottles)	7 dozen	
Gelatine Powders	11 dozen	
Wheat Flakes	48 packets	

NOTE.—A large percentage of the above has been disposed of as Pig Food.

FISH CONDEMNED

Dabs	5 stones	} Damaged or unsound and unfit for human consumption
Cod	..	..	..	..	26 stones
Sole	..	..	..	..	5 stones
Escallops	..	..	..	..	15 dozen
Prawns	..	..	..	..	66 lbs.
Bream Fillets	..	..	..	..	2 stones
Haddock	..	..	..	..	11 stones
Haddock Fillets	..	..	..	..	1 box
Bloaters	..	..	..	..	8 cwts.
Cod Fillets	..	..	..	..	15 stones
Kippers	..	..	..	..	10 stones
Hake	..	..	..	..	5 stones

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following disinfections were carried out in connection with the above.

Houses disinfected	..	..	..	..	4
Rooms sprayed or fumigated	..	..	..	..	73
Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	42
Vermin	..	..	..	..	14
Scabies (baths)	..	..	..	..	20
Cancer	..	..	..	..	10
Steam disinfections	..	..	..	..	8
Library Books	..	..	..	..	13
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	8

VERMIN INFESTATION**RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919 AND INFESTATION ORDER, 1943.****1. SEWERAGE.**

During the year the sewerage system in the Borough was again tested for rats. The following figures show the work carried out.

Areas test baited	..	..	..	..	13
Points baited	..	..	..	..	134
Negative results (presumed clean)	..	..	..	..	134
Total number of visits made	..	..	..	..	268

2. PRIVATE PREMISES

During the year 74 premises were visited in connection with complaints of rats and mice and investigations showed that 68 premises required attention, the remainder being clear. 270 visits were made and the total number of points poison baited was approximately 1156, resulting in the clearance of 60 premises at the end of the year.

3. CORPORATION PREMISES

Routine weekly inspections and treatment are still carried out at the Council Sewage and Destructor Works and Refuse Tip. This work is essential as unless these routine measures are carried out there would be a risk of considerable rat infestation.

The following statement shows the results of investigations arising from complaints of rats.

TOTAL NO. OF VISITS			PREMISES		
<i>By Rodent Operator</i>	<i>Public Health Department Inspections</i>		<i>Found clear</i>	<i>Test Baited</i>	<i>Poison Baited</i>
489	23		6	74	68

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS

The following are particulars from the Register.

(a) Total number of registered Dairy Farms	..	13
(b) Number of Retailers	.. .. .	21
(c) Number of Producer-Retailers included in (b)		9
(d) Number of licensed Pasteurising Plants	..	2

NOTE—The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries took over the control of milk production from 1st October, 1949.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) REGULATIONS, 1949. APPLICATIONS GRANTED TO RETAILERS FOR REGISTRATION UNDER THE ABOVE REGULATIONS.

(a) Tuberculin Tested	.. .. .	8
(b) Pasteurised	.. .. .	3

GRADED MILK PRODUCERS IN THE DISTRICT

(a) Tuberculin Tested	.. .. .	2
(b) Accredited	.. .. .	3
(c) Pasteurised	.. .. .	2

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

APPLICATIONS GRANTED FOR REGISTRATION OF PREMISES AND PERSONS

for	(a) Sale and Storage of Icecream	.. .. .	14
	(b) Preparation of Preserved Foods	.. .. .	2

ICE CREAM

TOTAL NUMBER OF PREMISES REGISTERED
AT END OF YEAR

(a) Manufacture, sale and storage	2
(b) Sale and Storage only	41

MILK

Samples taken in the Borough by the Somerset County Council.
(Taken from reports received by the Public Health Department).

	<i>Pasteurised</i>	<i>Tuberculin Tested</i>
Number taken	88	26
Number passed	86	22
Number failed	2	4*

*Failed to pass methylene blue test.

EMPTY CLEANSED MILK BOTTLES

<i>Number taken</i>	<i>Passed</i>	<i>Failed</i>
28	24	4

CHURN RINSINGS

<i>Number taken</i>	<i>Passed</i>	<i>Failed</i>
10	10	—

Samples taken by the Public Health Department :

ICE CREAM

<i>Number taken</i>	<i>Placed in Provisional Grades</i>			
	1.	2.	3.	4.
62	34	18	4	6

SWIMMING BATHS WATER

<i>Number taken</i>	<i>Passed</i>	<i>Failed</i>
6	6	—

WATER

<i>Source</i>	<i>Number taken</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
Main Supplies (cover all sources) ..	34	25	9*
Source Supplies (supplying mains) [†] ..	14	9	5

*Repeat samples were satisfactory.

[†]Water from these sources is chlorinated before passing into main supply.

The water supply for the year has been satisfactory in quality and quantity except for drought periods. In connection with this insufficiency at times, negotiations are now well advanced with neighbouring authorities with a view to increasing the supply.

GENERAL SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

The number of inspections made, together with the results, are given in the following tables :—

INSPECTIONS

Houses and other premises inspected under						
Housing and Public Health Acts .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	136
Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	..	..	..	..	..	357
Complaints .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	171
Drainage .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	192
Verminous premises .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	10
Stables .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	11
Moveable Dwellings .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	3
Smoke Nuisances .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	4
Smoke Observations .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	38
Dust Nuisances .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	19
Interviewing owners, builders, etc. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	185
Miscellaneous .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	212
Offensive Trades .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	10

FOOD PREMISES

Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	764
Butchers Shops	..	..	..	..	..	64
Cafes, Restaurants, and food premises	..	..				61
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	56
Cowsheds	..	..	..	..	..	38
Dairies	..	..	..	..	..	36
Ice cream premises	..	..	..	..		106
Re Applications for registration	..	..	..	..		4
Fish shops	..	..	..	..	..	30
Other premises	..	..	..	..	..	132
Food Poisoning Inspections	..				..	5

SAMPLES TAKEN

Water	..	..	..	..	..	48
Ice cream	..	..	..	..	..	62
Sewage	..	..	..	..	..	2
Swimming Baths Water	..	..	..	..		6

RESULTS OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS

GENERAL DEFECTS

Roofs renewed	..	..	..	..	..	7
Roofs repaired	..	..	..	..	..	37
Chimneys rebuilt or repaired	..	..	..	..		31
Guttering repaired	..	..	..	..	..	33
Downspouts repaired	..	..	..	..	..	10
Walls repaired	..	..	..	..	..	99
Walls rendered	..	..	..	..	..	62
Walls decorated	..	..	..	..	..	83
Windows renewed	..	..	..	..	..	8
Windows repaired	..	..	..	..	..	24
Windows painted	..	..	..	..	..	23
Doors renewed	..	..	..	..	..	4
Doors repaired	..	..	..	..	..	12
Doors painted	..	..	..	..	..	10
Ceilings renewed	..	..	..	..	..	7
Ceilings repaired	..	..	..	..	..	29
Ceilings whitened	..	..	..	..	..	36
Skirting boards repaired	..	..	..	..	..	19
Floors renewed	..	..	..	..	..	5
Floors repaired	..	..	..	..	..	22
Scullery provided	..	..	..	..	..	1
Food cupboards provided	..	..	..	..	..	4
Dampness remedied	..	..	..	..	..	25
Ventilation improved	..	..	..	..	..	6
Staircase repaired	..	..	..	..	..	9

Cooking ranges repaired	6
Yards paved	5
Yards repaired	2
Rooms disinfected	53
Rooms disinfested	20
Bedding disinfected	12
Bedding destroyed	5

DRAINAGE

Drainage relaid	33
Drainage repaired	31
Choked drains cleared	29
W.C.s built	20
W.C.s repaired	9
Sinks provided	13
Gulleys provided	49
New W.C. pans provided	33
Baths fixed	12
Urinals fixed	1
Inspection chambers built	36
Interceptors fixed	15
C.I. covers provided	35

STATUTORY ACTION TAKEN UNDER
PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING ACTS

<i>Act and Section</i>	<i>Statutory notice served</i>	<i>Abated</i>	<i>In hand</i>
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 93	1	1	—
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 44	1	—	1
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 39	1	1	—

HOUSING ACT 1936

<i>Houses dealt with</i>	<i>Undertakings accepted</i>	<i>Still outstanding</i>
Under Section 11	4	2

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1937

Visits re nuisances, sanitary accommodation, etc...	10
Inspections re Section 34 (Means of escape in case of Fire)	41

SEWERAGE AND REFUSE DISPOSAL WORKS

SEWAGE WORKS

The Works have been kept going throughout the year although difficulties have arisen, not least amongst them being the problem of disposing of the increasing amounts of sludge now produced. Earlier in the year, arrangements were completed whereby the Percolator works satisfactorily throughout the 24 hours. Detailed plans of the proposed new Works are in course of preparation at the moment.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

Referring to my report of last year, the scheme for the inclusion of a screen at the Destructor has gone forward, and before the end of the year all the necessary materials were ordered. It is hoped to carry out this much needed improvement in 1950.

REFUSE TIP

Preparations were made during the latter part of the year to commence a new tipping bay at a much lower level. It is hoped with the installation of the screen at the Destructor, to reduce the amount of refuse tipped and to use the screenings from the Destructor as cover material for that which is tipped.

SALVAGE

The amounts of salvage materials collected and sold during the year 1949 are shown below together with the corresponding amounts for 1947 and 1948.

<i>Materials</i>	1947		1948		1949	
	<i>Tons</i>	£	<i>Tons</i>	£	<i>Tons</i>	£
Paper	150	1068½	203	1585½	134	925
Ferrous Metals ..	10½	24½	103¾	146	60¾	68
Non-ferrous do.	¼	2	—	—	⅛	⅞
Rags	¾	16½	½	10¾	½	10
Bones	3½	19⅞	2¾	15¾	2¼	13
Kitchen Waste ..	451½	1354½	501¾	1505¾	451	1445⅝
Bottles (doz.'s) ..	1931¼	135¼	5207	257	448	10½
Misc. Sales ..	—	5	—	61¾	½	2¼
TOTALS ..	616½	2625⅜	811¾	3582½	649⅛	2475¼

Because of the falling off in demand for waste paper during the year, the separate bag container system was abandoned and paper salvage collection discontinued.

Kitchen waste tonnage dropped to the level of 1947 returns, but on the whole has continued to maintain a good position. Again, credit is due to the general public for their continued support in this direction.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C. G. H. RICE.

